

Application No.: 10/730,525

Reply to Office Action mailed September 15, 2005 and Advisory Action mailed December 29, 2005

Response dated: February 15, 2006

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the claims in light of the Remarks, which follow, and the Declaration submitted herewith, are respectfully requested.

Because the amendment of December 9, 2005 was indicated in the Advisory Action of December 29, 2005 as not entered, much of it is repeated below.

Claims before the Examiner are 1-3, 7-9, 12, 17-22, 24-31, and 34.

Support for the amendments to claim 1 is found in paragraph [0071], and claims 23 and 33 as filed.

The Examiner notes in the Advisory Action that the ratio of metallocene to silica and methyl alumoxane to silica were not in the Declaration. They are, (for all examples) alumoxane -- 6.4 mmoles/g support, metallocene-- 0.063 mmoles/g support.

Section 112 Rejections

2. Claims 1-3, 6-9, 11-13 and 15-34 stand rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, in particular, claims 1, 6, 13, 15 and 16.

Claims 6, 11, 13, 15 and 16 are herein cancelled without prejudice.

Claim 1 is amended to replace the term "polymer" with the term —copolymer— for added clarity.

The Applicants request that this rejection be withdrawn.

35 USC § 103 and § 102 Rejections

4. Claims 1-3, 6-9, 11-13 and 15-34 stand rejected under 35 USC § 102(b) as anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 USC § 103(a) as obvious over *McCullough* (US 2002/0032287).

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The claim limitation from original claim 33 is added to claim 1, and claim 1 is amended to limit the "support material" to silica. No new matter is added.

The Applicant contends the claims are not anticipated or rendered obvious over *McCullough* as amended. As evidence of the unexpected benefits of the claimed invention, the Applicant presents a Declaration under 37 CFR § 1.132 of a co-inventor, Agapious K. Agapiou. And a second, supplemental Declaration is submitted additionally.

Claims 23, 32 and 33 are herein cancelled without prejudice.

In light of the amendments and Declaration, the Applicant requests that this rejection be withdrawn.

All of the Examiner's Rejections have been addressed.

The claims are in condition for allowance.

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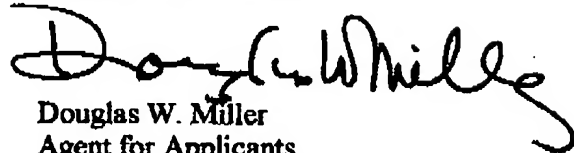
Response dated: February 15, 2006

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Respectfully submitted,

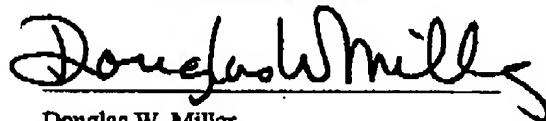


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